


The Transport for the South East Regional Travel Survey improves understanding of how people travel across the South East, and supports local transport planning. Aligned with the National Travel Survey, data was collected through extensive travel diary surveys, enabling more detailed analysis of local travel behaviour by local authorities. This factsheet summarises key travel patterns across Sussex & Brighton in 2024/2025. We have also created factsheets for the other areas in our region.



Average number of trips per person per year **948**


Overall, people in the area made a similar number of trips per year as the TfSE average (948 compared with 943) but travelled fewer miles each year (7800 miles compared with 8,900 miles). Despite recording the shortest average travel distance in the region, people in Sussex & Brighton still travelled further than the UK average.

How people are travelling

Average trip durations



13-23 minutes

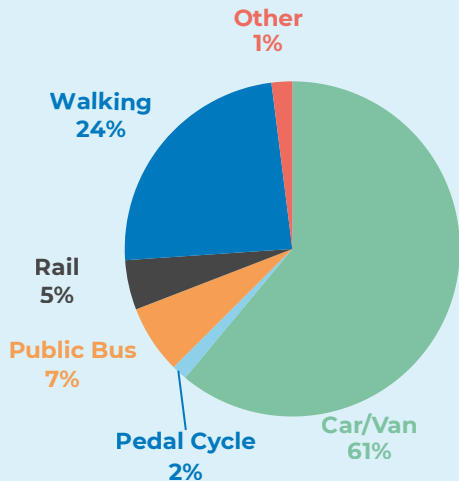


15-18 minutes



19-23 minutes

Trips by Mode



Travel in Sussex & Brighton is shaped by car use, however car use in the area (61% of trips) is closer to the England average (59%) than with the wider TfSE region (66%). The area also shows lower levels of walking and cycling than the national average. These trends provide important context for understanding travel behaviour across the region and the challenges and opportunities it presents.

Vehicle Ownership

75% of households in Sussex & Brighton own at least one car, which is lower than both the TfSE and England average (79%).

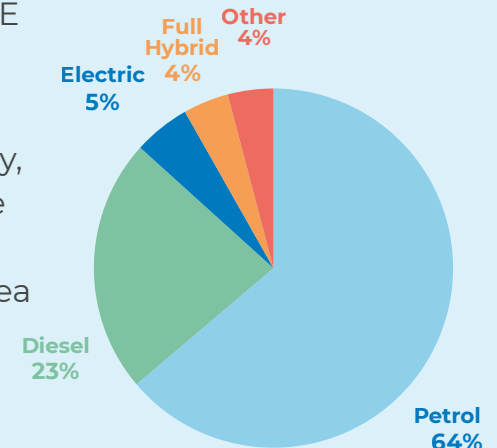
Driving licence ownership is higher in the area than nationally, with 86% of adults holding some form of licence, compared with 75% in England. However, the area sees the lowest rates of licence ownership in the TfSE region.

EV Charging

In Sussex & Brighton, most EV charging takes place at home (66%). Public charging mainly occurs at service stations or charging hubs (11%) and at public charging points (11%), which is slightly higher than in other areas of the TfSE region. Workplaces and places of education account for 6% of use, followed by business or organisation car parks (3%).



Vehicle Ownership



66%

Why people are travelling



32%
Leisure

Sussex & Brighton follow similar trip-purpose trends to the wider TfSE region. Leisure was the most common reason for travel in both Sussex & Brighton and the TfSE region. Shopping accounted for 27% of all journeys in the area, compared with 18% nationally. Commuting was also more prominent, making up 17% of trips compared with 12% across England. However, Sussex & Brighton recorded lower rates of travel for education and business than the national average.



27%
Shopping



17%
Commuting



16%
Personal Business



1%
Business



2%
Education

How people are commuting

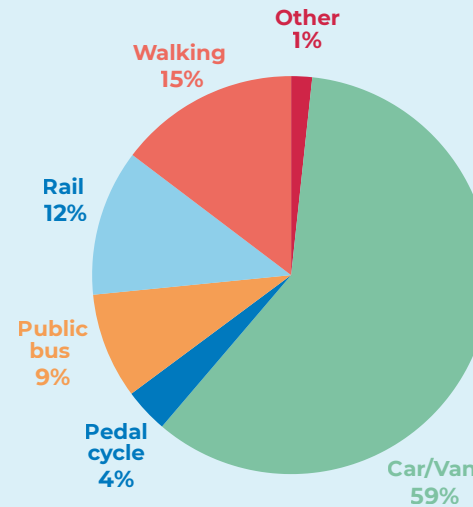
Sussex & Brighton had the highest share of residents reporting that they never commute within the TfSE region.

Commuter frequency in 2024



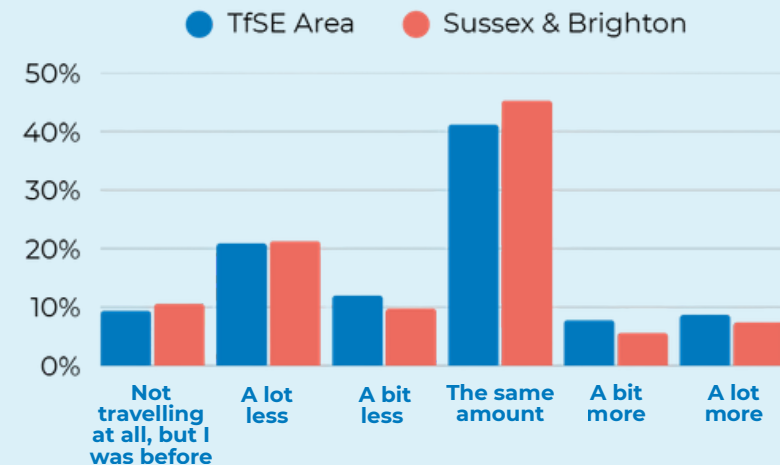
- Everyday **36%**
- At least once a week **41%**
- At least once a month **8%**
- Less than once a month **6%**
- Never **9%**

Commuting Mode Share



Sussex & Brighton generally follows the same trends as the rest of the TfSE region when comparing pre- and post-pandemic commuting patterns. Compared with pre-pandemic levels, 45% of people report commuting about the same amount. However, a sizeable shift is evident as 42% of people have reported commuting less. In contrast, 13% report commuting more often, which is slightly lower than the TfSE average.

Commuting Changes Since COVID



This fact sheet offers a short snapshot of selected findings from the RTS. While it highlights some key insights, the survey includes a much wider range of data, and full datasets can be provided on request. Please contact coe@transportforthesoutheast.org.uk for more information.